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**Abstract**

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A steam cycle with a steam generator, adapted to have thermal energy transferred to an operating medium and a power engine adapted to convert the thermal energy comprised in the operating medium to mechanical energy, is characterized in that the operating medium contains at least one heterocyclic compound, especially a heterocyclic aromatic compound, for example 2-methyl pyridine, 3-methyl pyridine, pyridine, pyrrole and/or pyridazine. The operating medium can also contain one or more polymers which are mixable with water, for example polyethylene glycol or a polyphenyl, especially terphenyl, surfactant and/or other organic lubricants.

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